



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Thank you to our special guests and presenters:

Governor Steve Bullock and First Lady Lisa Bullock

Kevin Myhre, Chair, Montana Commission on Community Service

Dan Ritter, Director, Governor's Office of Community Service

Thank you to our ServeMontana Award ceremony sponsor:



Special thanks to the Xpress Singers for providing entertainment at this year's awards

Congratulations to the ServeMontana Award recipients!

Thank you for making a difference in Montana.

The Governor's Office of Community Service and the Governor-appointed Montana Commission on Community Service were created in 1993 to promote and expand national service and volunteer opportunities in Montana.

Governor's Office of Community Service
PO BOX 200801, Helena, MT, 59620
serve.mt.gov



serve montana awards
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

The ServeMontana Awards recognize individuals and organizations who, through their dedication and commitment to community service, have greatly enhanced civic life in Montana. These individuals and organizations represent the best in positive community change through service, volunteerism, and community leadership.

First Lady School Nutrition Awards

The First Lady School Nutrition Awards recognize schools that encourage success for all students in Montana through the initiation and continued support of school nutrition programs.

May 10, 2019 10:30am

**Room 303 - Old Supreme Court Chambers
Montana State Capitol**



Neil Weare — Missoula

As a Foster Grandparent with Senior Corps at Missoula Aging Services, Neil has volunteered over 10,797 hours of his time to mentoring students in Missoula's Head Start Program. He is dedicated to helping students succeed. "Neil has been such an asset to the class! He always shows genuine compassion for the students. He is a great role model. We wouldn't trade him for anything. His enthusiasm for working with the children is wonderful and he is very well loved," said Neil's supervising teacher at Head Start.

Karen Grosz — Billings

Karen has convened multiple community wide meetings to build collaborations to increase support for Child Protective Services workers and children/families in the foster care system. She launched a social media effort —I'll Help-Billings — to allow people in the community to engage in peer-to-peer donations and support for children in the foster care system. She has donated countless hours to improving the quality of services for young children, including hosting multiple family art nights for low-income and at-risk families. She also serves in the Rotary Club, on the Board of the Boys and Girls Club, and leads the Rotary Youth Leadership Academy program.

Jackie Bird — St. Marie

For the past thirteen years, Jackie has been putting together care packages for military men and women. She has spent countless hours rounding up items, soliciting donations, tracking down names and addresses, packaging the items, and then sending them overseas. She has dedicated hours of her time to fundraising, purchasing needed items, sharing her story, and organizing everything for shipment. Jackie is now approaching 2,500 packages shipped.

Gary Peterson — Great Falls

Gary is a dedicated community volunteer at Lincoln Elementary School, serving two hours every day at the school. He plays math games with kindergarteners, works with students one-on-one, and tutors 6th grade students in math. The teachers he works with applaud his dependability and willingness to work with kids regardless of the task or student's ability. Students enjoy working with him, and Gary puts them at ease to make their tutoring experience enjoyable as well as productive.

Bill Gillespie — Toston

A lifelong community volunteer, Bill has done everything from serving in the American Legion Color Guard helping lay fellow veterans to rest to helping with historical and cultural preservation projects in Radersburg. He served twenty years on the Broadwater County Rural Volunteer Fire Department. Dependable, consistent, creative and dedicated, he is an unwavering contributor to his country, community, church, family, brothers-in-arms, friends, and neighbors.

Rose Park Elementary PTA — Billings

The PTA at Rose Park Elementary has dedicated their time and service for the past year to provide an inclusive playground for all children in Billings. The PTA has already raised \$229,258 toward the inclusive playground and plans to raise even more. Through it all, the parents of the Rose Park PTA have continued to provide students and staff At Rose Park Elementary with amazing support. This includes organizing a new coffee bar for staff and providing students the opportunity to participate in NOVA, a theatrical group for students.

Augusta Ambulance — Augusta

The members of the all-volunteer ambulance service in Augusta are always on call. At any time if there is a need, they leave their jobs to respond to a call. They stand by at football games, as well as the Augusta Rodeo. They hike into the wilderness and carry injured people out. They sit with people who have just lost a loved one. They miss meals, family and community functions, and even holidays, all to ensure that members of the Augusta community and the surrounding areas have emergency medical services when they need them.



School Breakfast Champion Award

Central Elementary School — Sidney

Wholesome School Menu Award

Gardiner Public School District

School Nutrition Innovation Award

Kalispell Public Schools

School Nutrition Team of the Year

Wolf Point School District